

which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on December 17, 2012.

Navy nominations beginning with David Sammett and ending with Timothy R. Durkin, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on November 27, 2012.

Navy nominations beginning with Timothy R. Anderson and ending with George B. Watkins, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on November 27, 2012.

Navy nomination of John T. Volpe, to be Commander.

Navy nomination of Tamara M. Sorensen, to be Lieutenant Commander.

Navy nomination of Joseph N. Kenan, to be Lieutenant Commander.

By Mr. BAUCUS for the Committee on Finance.

*Albert G. Lauber, of the District of Columbia, to be a Judge of the United States Tax Court for the term of fifteen years.

*Ronald Lee Buch, of Virginia, to be a Judge of the United States Tax Court for a term of fifteen years.

*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

(Nominations without an asterisk were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. BAUCUS (for himself, Mr. KERRY, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. CARDIN, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. SNOWE, and Mr. CONRAD):

S. 3705. A bill to establish a commission to develop a national strategy and recommendations for reducing fatalities resulting from child abuse and neglect; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. SCHUMER (for himself, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mrs. BOXER, Mrs. MCCASKILL, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. CASEY, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, and Mrs. GILLIBRAND):

S. 3706. A bill to amend chapter 301 of title 49, United States Code, to prohibit the rental of motor vehicles that contain a defect related to motor vehicle safety, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. SCHUMER:

S. 3707. A bill to authorize utilities to obtain national criminal history background checks of certain employees in sensitive positions; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. KYL:

S. 3708. A bill to encourage reporting of child abuse; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. VITTER (for himself and Mr. BROWN of Ohio):

S. 3709. A bill to require a Government Accountability Office examination of transactions between large financial institutions and the Federal Government, and for other purposes; considered and passed.

By Mr. PAUL:

S.J. Res. 51. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Internal Revenue Service

of the Department of the Treasury relating to taxable medical devices; to the Committee on Finance.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 32

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 32, a bill to prohibit the transfer or possession of large capacity ammunition feeding devices, and for other purposes.

S. 35

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 35, a bill to establish background check procedures for gun shows.

S. 818

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 818, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to count a period of receipt of outpatient observation services in a hospital toward satisfying the 3-day inpatient hospital requirement for coverage of skilled nursing facility services under Medicare.

S. 847

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) was added as a cosponsor of S. 847, a bill to amend the Toxic Substances Control Act to ensure that risks from chemicals are adequately understood and managed, and for other purposes.

S. 1468

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1468, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve access to diabetes self-management training by authorizing certified diabetes educators to provide diabetes self-management training services, including as part of telehealth services, under part B of the Medicare program.

S. 3077

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the names of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) and the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 3077, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in recognition and celebration of the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

S. 3338

At the request of Mr. ENZI, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3338, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act and title XVIII of the Social Security Act to make the provision of technical services for medical imaging examinations and radiation therapy treatments safer, more accurate, and less costly.

AMENDMENT NO. 3350

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a co-

sponsor of amendment No. 3350 proposed to H.R. 1, a bill making appropriations for the Department of Defense and the other departments and agencies of the Government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2011, and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. BAUCUS (for himself, Mr. KERRY, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. CARDIN, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. SNOWE, and Mr. CONRAD):

S. 3705. A bill to establish a commission to develop a national strategy and recommendations for reducing fatalities resulting from child abuse and neglect; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, Nelson Mandela, the former president of South Africa, once said "Safety and security don't just happen; they are the result of collective consensus and public investment. We owe our children, the most vulnerable citizens in our society, a life free of violence and fear."

Today, I echo that call to protect our most vulnerable citizens as I join Senators KERRY, COLLINS, CARDIN, SHAHEEN, SNOWE, and CONRAD to introduce the Protect Our Kids Act.

This important legislation establishes a special task force dedicated to reducing child abuse and neglect in America. Comprised of our Nation's top child welfare administrators and researchers, law enforcement officers, and other dedicated experts, this task force would study and evaluate federal, state, and private child welfare systems and develop a comprehensive national strategy to prevent and reduce these tragic acts of violence.

Since 2002, more than 15,000 children have died due to abuse and neglect. This number is based on state-reported Child Protection Services data. But advocates predict the true number is far greater.

We don't have clear facts because currently, there is no national standard for collecting data on these young victims. Many state child protection agencies do not share vital data and statistics with other agencies, officials, or law enforcement.

Clearly, more must be done to better protect our Nation's children. More must be done to protect them from the fear and terror of abuse, especially when the threat to their safety often comes from those that should cherish them the most.

We need to bring this issue out of the shadows. It starts by learning more about the tragic deaths of these children, so that we can prevent the senseless murders from happening again. That is what this task force will do. They will study the issue and develop a national strategy and recommendations for improvements throughout the child welfare system.

According to Child Protection Services data, in Montana we reported zero fatalities from child abuse and neglect